

1.

Government in Tibet have denied the permanent(永久的) closure of Mount Qomolangma National Nature Reserve.

The announcement came after a report went viral online claiming the base camp of the world's highest mountain was "permanently closed due to heavy pollution" and caused a universal misunderstanding.

Mount Qomolangma National Nature Reserve was set up in 1988. Covering an area of more than 33, 800 square km, it is home to one of the world's weakest ecosystems. Kelsang, deputy director of the reserve administration, said ordinary tourists are allowed to visit areas around Rongpo Monastery, almost 5, 000 meters above sea level. As for travelers who have a climbing permit, they can go to the base camp at an altitude of 5, 200 meters. The mountaineering activities have been permitted by the regional forestry department.

To protect the environment surrounding Mount Qomolangma, China carried out three major clean-ups at an altitude of 5, 200 meters and above last spring, collecting eight tonnes of household wastes, human wastes and mountaineering trash. This year, the cleanup will continue, and the remains of mountaineering victims(受害者) at above 8, 000 meters will be centrally dealt with for the first time. Meanwhile, the number of people who stay at the base camp will be kept under 300.

Recently, there are 85 wildlife protectors in the reserve, and 1, 000 herders have part-time jobs going around and cleaning up garbage. These measures aim to strike a balance between various demands such as environmental protection, local poverty relief, mountaineering and education, said Wang Shen, county chief of Dingri at the mountain foot.

【1】Which of the following can replace the underlined words "went viral" in Paragraph 2?

A.spread wildly B.blocked out C.gave away D.shot up

【2】What can we learn according to Kelsang's words about the National Nature Reserve?

- A.Most tourists are allowed to visit the base camp.
- B.A permit is a must for visitors going to the base camp.
- C.The mountaineering activities are not allowed these days.
- D.The areas above 5, 200 meters are open to everyone.

【3】Why did the government carry out clean-ups at an altitude of 5, 200 meters and above?

- A.To provide a much easier path for mountaineers.
- B.To keep mountaineering activities going smoothly.
- C.To remove the remains of mountaineering victims.
- D.To protect the environment of Mount Qomolangma.

2.

The next time you need to get somewhere, you may be able to follow your nose. A study has found that a strong sense of smell is associated with a strong sense of direction.

Researchers conducted an experiment at McGill University in Canada. Fifty-seven adults were invited to participate in a virtual "way-finding task" in which they had to make their way around a virtual environment. They were given 20 minutes to learn about the virtual city. After having passed by each of eight landmarks at least twice, the participants were placed in front of one of the landmarks and asked to find the most direct route to one assigned by the researchers.

The participants also smelled 40 scented (有香气的) pens one at a time. After a brief sniff, the participants chose one word that best identified the smell from four words on a screen.

An additional exercise used a virtual maze (迷宫) to determine if the participants were more likely to rely on landmarks to find the way or if they used a more habit-based method built over time as people traveled the same route over and over again.

What the researchers found was that those with the ability to correctly identify the smells of the pens also had the easiest time performing the way-finding task by way of landmarks. A strong sense of smell was not identified in the participants who used the more habit-based method.

The connection between the sense of smell and way-finding likely came about as a result of the evolution of the nervous system. The original function of the sense of smell in humans may have been intended to support our spatial memory.

Keep that in mind the next time you get lost going to the dentist. It won't prevent you from getting horribly lost, but it's good food for thought along the way.

【1】How does the author support his argument?

- A.By examining differences. B.By doing virtual experiment.
- C.By providing examples. D.By analyzing cause.

【2】What were the participants asked to do after smelling a scented pen?

- A.Decide whether they liked the smell.
- B.Use a sentence to describe the smell.
- C.Choose a suitable word for the smell.
- D.Find the landmark that featured the smell.

【3】Which of the following factors is related to a strong sense of direction?

- A.The way of using landmarks. B.More experience in describing things.
- C.Quick adjustment to the virtual world. D.A more habit-based way-finding method.

3. 阅读理解

Compassion and love are concepts that are often thought to be felt by humans only. As the most intelligent creatures to ever walk the earth, we tend to assume that we are the only ones who can feel emotions. We forget that the speechless beings who live here with us - animals - also have the same capability.

During a cold night in Ontario, Canada, a passer-by spotted something on the side of the road that made her stop - a shaking dog curled up in the snow.

When she approached the pup, she discovered that she wasn't alone-she was cuddling five orphaned black kittens to keep them warm.

The dog surely could have found a safer place to stay for the night, but she chose instead to help not just herself but other stray animals as well.

The Good Samaritan called Pet and Wildlife Rescue and an animal control officer picked them up. When they got to the shelter, it was apparent that a close bond had already been formed between the dog and the orphaned kittens. The staff decided to name the kind dog Serenity in honor of her selfless act.

"It's truly heartwarming!" a shelter spokesperson told The Dodo. "It had been a very cold night so these kittens would have had a very hard time surviving."

Aside from requiring treatment for worm and flea infections, the orphaned kittens are now safe. Just like a proud and doting mother, Serenity insisted on checking on her babies regularly to oversee their progress.

The good news is that the kittens are now living with a foster family who will care for them until they are old enough to be adopted. Serenity, on the other hand, is still looking for a family.

According to the shelter, she loves zooming around in the yard and is big on playing. She is also quite jumpy, so she would do best in a home without small children.